Appl. No. 10/664,746
Amdt. dated November 29, 2005
Reply to Office action of September 14, 2005

REMARKS

Applicants have received the Office action dated September 14, 2005, in which the Examiner: 1) rejected claims 1, 11 and 23 for alleged double patenting over claims 1 and 3 of U.S. Patent No. 6,636,904; 2) rejected claims 1 and 2 as allegedly anticipated by Staples (U.S. Pat. No. 5,799,036); 3) rejected claim 3 as allegedly unpatentable over Staples; and 4) rejected claims 4-9, 11, 14 and 23 as allegedly unpatentable over Staples in view of Botkin et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,161,161).

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

I.   DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTION

With this Response, Applicants submit a Terminal Disclaimer over U.S. Patent No. 6,636,904.

II.   ART-BASED REJECTIONS

A.   Claim 1

Claim 1 stands rejected as allegedly anticipated by Staples.

Staples is directed to a computer system which provides analog audio communication between a PC card and the computer's sound system. (Staples Title). In particular, the Staples' system uses one or more pins of a PCMCIA connector to pass audio information between a PC card modem and the computer's sound system. (Staples Abstract). The relevant portion of Figure 8 of Staples is reproduced immediately below:
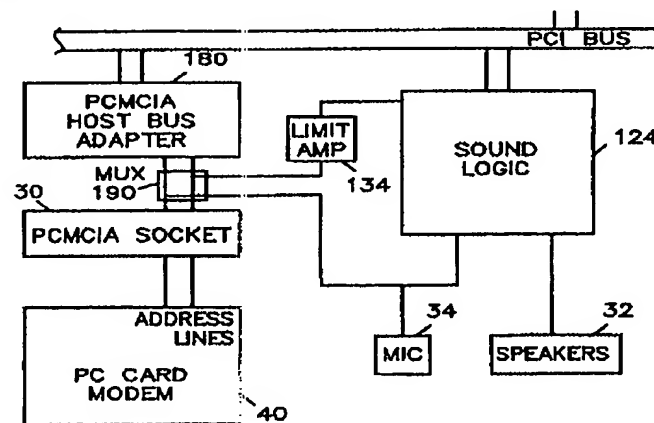
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In these embodiments of Staples, the high address lines are selectively used as either address lines, or as the input line from microphone 34 to the PC card and audio output to the sound logic 124 from the PC card.

> The multiplexer 190 selects either a first path between the one or more high address pins and the PC card bus adapter 180 or a second path between the one or more high address pins and the sound system 122.

(Staples Col. 10, lines 9-13).

Claim 1, by contrast, specifically recites, "a logic device coupled to said peripheral bus **that swaps a second address line for said first address line** when a peripheral bus cycle is run to said first address line." Applicants respectfully submit that Staples does not teach, suggest or even imply such a system. In Staples either the address lines from the PC card 40 pass directly through the multiplexer 190 to the PCMCIA host bus adapter 180, or the address lines from the PC card 40 couple to the microphone and sound logic 124. Thus, Staples fails to teach or suggest "a logic device coupled to said peripheral bus **that swaps a second address line for said first address line** when a peripheral bus cycle is run to said first address line."

Based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1, and all claims which depend from claim 1 (claims 2-9), should be allowed.

B.   Claim 11

Claim 11 stands rejected as allegedly obvious over Staples and Botkin.

Staples is directed to a computer system which provides analog audio communication between a PC card and the computer's sound system. (Staples Title). In particular, in Staples the high address lines are selectively used as either address lines, or as the input line from microphone 34 to the PC card and audio output to the sound logic 124 from the PC card. (Staples Col. 10, lines 9-13). Botkin is directed to a system and method for coupling a local bus to a peripheral component interconnect bus (Botkin Title).

Claim 11, by contrast, specifically recites, "the programmable logic device asserts a control signal to an electronically-controlled switch to connect the

particular system bus **address line** to another **address line.**" Applicants respectfully submit that Staples and Botkin do not teach or suggest such a system. In particular, in Staples either the address lines from the PC card 40 pass directly through the multiplexer 190 to the PCMCIA host bus adapter 180, or the address lines from the PC card 40 couple to the microphone and sound logic 124. Thus, even if the teachings of Botkin are precisely as the Office action suggests (which Applicants do not admit), the references still fail to teach a system that couples "the particular system bus **address line** to another **address line.**" For this reason alone claim 11 should be allowed.

Moreover, claim 11 recites, "said programmable logic device having logic **that detects configuration read or write cycle to a particular system bus address line** associated with a bridge logic device and, upon detecting a configuration read or write cycle to that particular address line, the programmable logic device **asserts a control signal to an electronically-controlled switch** to connect the particular system bus address line to another address line." The switching of Staples does not appear to be based on configuration read cycles, and thus even if the teachings of Botkin are precisely as the Office action suggests (which Applicants do not admit), the references still fail to teach a system **"that detects configuration read or write cycle to a particular system bus address line ... [and] asserts a control signal to an electronically-controlled switch."**

Based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 11, and all claim 14 which depends from claim 11, should be allowed.

C.   Claim 23

Claim 23 stands rejected as allegedly obvious over Staples and Botkin.

Staples is directed to a computer system which provides analog audio communication between a PC card and the computer's sound system. (Staples Title). In particular, in Staples the high address lines are selectively used as either address lines, or as the input line from microphone 34 to the PC card and audio output to the sound logic 124 from the PC card. (Staples Col. 10,

lines 9-13). Botkin is directed to a system and method for coupling a local bus to a peripheral component interconnect bus (Botkin Title).

Claim 23, by contrast, specifically recites, "asserting a control signal to said switch to connect said **first address line** to another of the system bus **address lines** associated with said first peripheral device." Applicants respectfully submit that Staples and Botkin do not teach or suggest such a system. In particular, in Staples either the address lines from the PC card 40 pass directly through the multiplexer 190 to the PCMCIA host bus adapter 180, or the address lines from the PC card 40 couple to the microphone and sound logic 124. Thus, even if the teachings of Botkin are precisely as the Office action suggests (which Applicants do not admit), the references still fail to teach a system that couples "said **first address line** to another of the system bus **address lines**." For this reason alone claim 23 should be allowed.

Moreover, claim 23 recites, "a means for **detecting a system bus configuration cycle** associated with said first address line and, upon detecting the configuration cycle associated with said first address line, **asserting a control signal to said switch to connect said first address line to another of the system bus address lines associated with said first peripheral device.**" The switching of Staples does not appear to be based on configuration read cycles, and thus even if the teachings of Botkin are precisely as the Office action suggests (which Applicants do not admit), the references still fail to teach "**detecting a system bus configuration cycle** ... [and] **asserting a control signal to said switch to connect said first address line to another of the system bus address lines associated with said first peripheral device.**"

Based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 23 should be allowed.
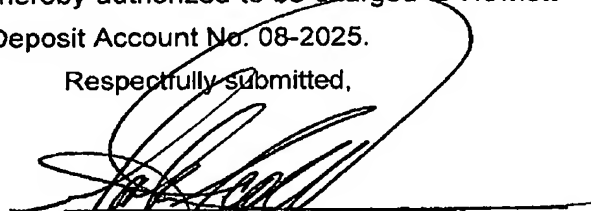
III.   CONCLUSION

In the course of the foregoing discussions, Applicants may have at times referred to claim limitations in shorthand fashion, or may have focused on a particular claim element. This discussion should not be interpreted to mean that the other limitations can be ignored or dismissed. The claims must be viewed as

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a whole, and each limitation of the claims must be considered when determining the patentability of the claims. Moreover, it should be understood that there may be other distinctions between the claims and the cited art which have yet to be raised, but which may be raised in the future.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. It is believed that no extensions of time or fees are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Hewlett-Packard Development Company's Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

Respectfully submitted,

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